

Operations Center
24 May 78
file

EASTERN EUROPE

1. SOVIET BLOC/DISSIDENCE: In Moscow, a man who said he was a member of the "Russian Liberation Army" seized two hostages at the office of the Finnish Airline in Moscow and demanded a plane to fly him out of the country. The hostages later escaped, the gunman surrendered to police and was taken away, possibly after being shot in the stomach.

In Czechoslovakia, border guards have shot three gunmen -- killing one -- who hijacked a school bus full of children and tried to escape to West Germany. (AP)

UNITED STATES

- ✓ 1. CIA: Former Director Colby is quoted in a Milan weekly, after an interview, that the Agency funneled millions of dollars to Italy's centrist parties, including the Christian Democrats, during the period 1948-58 to counter Soviet financial support for the Communists. Colby is also reported to have said that some members of the Red Brigades may have been trained in Communist countries.

✓ In another interview with Playboy (July issue), Colby says it would be "moral" for the Ugandan people to kill Idi Amin and the CIA could morally aid the assassination if the safety and welfare of the US was somehow involved. (AP)

LATE ITEM: Ugandan President Idi Amin told his Defense Council in Kampala today that the Soviet Union and Cuba are Africa's best friends because they are helping imperialist-oppressed Africans to become self-reliant and independent. Indeed, he announced that he was inviting Soviet and Cuban fighter pilots to come to Uganda to hold a joint exercise with Ugandan fliers. (FBIS)